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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 10/066,850

Applicant: Ilya AVRUTOV et al.

Filed: February 4, 2002

Art Unit 1625

Examiner: Morris, Patricia

For: PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF SUBSTITUTED 2-(2-PYRIDYLMETHYL)
SULFINYL-IH-BENZIMIDAZOLES

Docket No.: 1662/55702

Customer No.: 26646

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

SIR:

The response due date for the Restriction Requirement dated January 19, 2005 has been extended one month with the attached Petition for Extension of Time.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, applicants elect with traverse to prosecute Group I, claims 1-24 and 29-52. Applicants submit that it would not be undue burden for Group II, claims 25-28 and 53-64, be examined on the merits along with Group I because Examiner Robinson already allowed claims 2-15, 19, 21, 24 and 29-60. Withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is requested.

In response to the Election of Species Requirement put forth in the Restriction Requirement dated January 19, 2005, applicants elect with traverse the process disclosed in Example 3 as the species. Applicants submit that there would not be undue burden to examine the full scope of the elected claims 1-24 and 29-52 because all the species covered by claims 1-

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24 and 29-52 are classified in 546/273.7. As a result, applicants request that the Election of Species Requirement be withdrawn also.

In the event that the filing of this Response is deemed not timely, applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. The petition fee, and any other fees that may be required in relation to this paper, can be charged to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

The Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned if there are minor issues that can be resolved with a telephone interview.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

Dated: March 2, 2005

By: King L. Wong
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